

**City of Newton**  
**Crime Prevention Commission**  
**Minutes of Meeting – Wednesday, April 18, 2012**

7:00pm - Newton Police Headquarters, 1321 Washington Street, West Newton,  
MA 02465.

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**Active Commissioners Present:** Frank Wolpe (Chair), Debra Darcy, Marc Epstein, Bernard Goulding, Fred Winer, David Winer

**Active Commissioners Absent:** Richard Catrambone, Colleen Rosenbaum, Scott, Rosenbaum

**Commissioners' Consultants (formerly called Visiting Guests) Present:** Margie Kern, Steve Konowitz, Bill Renke, Barbara Wong, Terry Sauro, Meg Bossong, Erin Miller

**Ex-Officio Members Present:** NPD Lt. Bruce Apotheker

**Ex-Officio Members Absent:** NPD Chief Matt Cummings, NPD Auxiliary Dep. Chief, Jeff Silton

**Inactive Members Absent:** Louis Bruno, Leonard Fisher, Marjorie Kagan, Benjamin Rubin, Frances Shaer, Richard Wing

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Frank Wolpe, Chair; and NPD Lt. Bruce Apotheker delivered the most recent 4/15/12 Comstat Crime Report, which revealed a slight decrease in overall crime by 3% from the previous year's numbers. That decrease was due in part to an uptick in burglaries and a decrease in larcenies year to date between 2011 and 2012. Larcenies from a motor vehicle were down from 86 in 2011 to 59 in 2012, year to date.

Next, there was a unanimous vote to approve the draft Minutes for the most recent March 21<sup>st</sup> meeting.

Turning to the topic of RAD (viz. Rape Aggression Defense) Program, there was a monthly progress report by Consultant Steven Konowitz, Esq. about steps going forward with the *Lilly Konowitz Foundation for Women's Safety* and the Foundation's fundraiser scheduled for June 2012. NPD Officer Jeff Mace, a member of the Lt. Bruce Apotheker command group, reported on his noteworthy RAD activities, coursework and successes scored by NPD training officers at Newton South High School and elsewhere. The youngsters who finished their after school sessions, by all reports, exhibited a level of confidence that was raised dramatically. Bruce, Jeff and their NPD colleagues were heartily commended for their efforts.

Attention was also directed to Agenda Building and the following matters to be considered at future meetings:

1. A search within our ranks for a volunteer replacement to fill retired George Cullen's position as "Elder Affairs Liaison" person responsible for arranging education and outreach on such matters as "elder fraud,"
2. Offering a comprehensive Local-Option Neighborhood Watch Program for all neighborhoods in all Villages where residents want to activate such a collaborative effort, and
3. Consideration of teen dating violence and bystander education **to** begin a new conversation about education and outreach.

Changing direction, there was a sober discussion about the Trayvon Martin shooting, which included reference to the indictment of the alleged perpetrator for 2<sup>nd</sup> degree murder. The Chair reported a formal request by the Newton Human Rights Commission (HRC) to join in their Letter to the Editor of the Newton Tab for publication on April 25<sup>th</sup>. A draft of that proposed Letter was distributed to the members for their editorial consideration. In the spirit of cooperation, edits were respectfully agreed upon by a majority even though members expressed their steadfast belief, with their law enforcement experience, that we would be most prudent to give our nation's system of justice time to work. The Chair was charged with immediately informing the HRC about our Commission's edited Letter as well as our view of a prudent approach to this tragedy.

On a motion made by the Chair, and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00pm.